

GUIDANCE AND PLACEMENT SERVICES DIGEST

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This Digest is used to transmit information pertaining to the four program components of the Missouri Comprehensive Guidance Program: Curriculum; Individual Planning; Responsive Services; and System Support to professional school counselors, placement personnel, career and technical school counselors and administrators at all levels throughout the state.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

WELCOME BACK

As we begin the sixth year of the Guidance Digest, we would like to take this opportunity to wish you well as we begin the 2008-2009 school year. We are sure that it will be another challenging yet rewarding year of assisting students with their academic, personal/social and career development. We encourage you to contact any of us when you have questions; while we don't always have the answers, we will do our utmost to help you find the information you seek.

The initial copy of the Digest is sent to a guidance contact selected by the school district. To those of you who are receiving the Digest for the first time as your district's guidance contact, we ask that you help us to help keep others informed by forwarding it to all counselors, administrators, placement personnel, career and technical school counselors, other staff and whomever you think might profit from the information contained within.

If you have difficulties in doing this, contact John Robbins by e-mail at john.robbins@dese.mo.gov.

From the Guidance and Placement Section Staff: Have a great School Year!!!

Bragg Stanley, Director

Kyle Heislen, Supervisor, Mentor Coordinator

John Robbins, Supervisor, Digest Editor

Heather Evers, Administrative Assistant

NEW LOOK FOR WEBSITE

As part of a Department wide revision of the DESE website, the Guidance & Placement section website now has a new look. We encourage you to go to (http://dese.mo.gov/divcareered/guidance_placement_index.htm) and see our new design.

PROGRAM COMPONENTS:

(From time to time, resources that are brought to our attention through ASCA listservs or other means that could be used as part of a guidance program will be listed here. The readers are encouraged to investigate the resources and decide whether or not they are appropriate for their programs. Listing of these resources does not constitute endorsement by either our section or DESE.)

{CURRICULUM}

FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT WORKSHOPS FOR COUNSELORS SCHEDULED; CAN ENROLL ONLINE

The workshops, sponsored by the Guidance and Placement Section at DESE and SuccessLink, will provide professional school counselors the knowledge and skills base to conduct formative assessments of their guidance lessons. Formative assessment results have important implications for instruction. Counselors can use formative assessments to inform curriculum and instruction so that instructional goals are met.

Enrollment can be accomplished on line by going to <https://www.mylearningplan.com/WebReg/Catalog.asp?D=11005> and typing in formative assessment under search terms, clicking on guidance and placement under programs and hitting enter. That will give you a list of dates and locations from which to choose.

A REMINDER:

Sample curriculum lessons for all ages that correspond to the new standards and GLE's may be found on the Guidance E-Learning Center housed in the Missouri Center for Career Education at <http://missouricareereducation.org/curr/cmd/guidanceplacementG/elearning/>

You can also search for guidance lessons on the SuccessLink website at http://www.successlink.org/gti/search/start_search.asp

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. Inquiries related to Department programs may be directed to the Jefferson State Office Building, Title IX Coordinator, 5th Floor, 205 Jefferson Street, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102-0480; telephone number 573-751-4212.

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{INDIVIDUAL PLANNING}

MISSOURI CONNECTIONS REMAINS A VALUABLE RESOURCE

We encourage counselors and students to continue to utilize the Missouri Connections system for assistance with individualized education and career planning. For more information about Missouri Connections, contact Renee Bales, Missouri field trainer, at (515-326-1725) or e-mail balesr@kuder.com. You can visit the website for Missouri Connections at MissouriConnections.org.

CONFUSED ABOUT SAT AND ACT SCORES?

The ACT and SAT are different tests that measure similar but distinct constructs. The ACT measures achievement related to high school curricula, while the SAT measures general verbal and quantitative reasoning.

ACT and the College Board have completed a concordance study that is designed to examine the relationship between two scores on the ACT and SAT. These concordance tables do not equate scores, but rather provide a tool for finding comparable scores. To see these tables and explanations about what is meant by concordance, go to <http://www.act.org/aap/concordance/>

ANOTHER NATIONWIDE TESTING DATE ADDED BY ACT

Based on numerous requests and recommendations, ACT will—beginning in 2009—offer a September test date in all states. Although one year away, we hope that release of this information will help secondary and postsecondary educators better plan for the added test date.

"MISSOURI'S HOT JOBS" 2006-2016 IS NOW AVAILABLE

The "Missouri Hot Jobs" flyer is now updated with 2006 wage and 2006-2016 employment projection data provided by the Missouri Economic Research and Information Center (MERIC). Jobs making the list reflect those with better than average occupation outlook through the year 2016. To see the information, which is presented for each of the six career paths, go to http://dese.mo.gov/divcareered/documents/MCE_Missouri_Hot_Jobs_2006-2016.pdf

{RESPONSIVE SERVICES}

RESOURCE FOR PARENTS WHO HAVE BEEN OR MAY BE DEPLOYED

ParentLink, which supports Missouri's families and communities by linking parents and professionals to information and resources, has created a healthy parenting toolkit to help talk about deployment, relocation, dangerous work, times of crisis, and other general parenting topics. The materials are provided free of charge and are available on their website for download. To access these materials, go to <http://extension.missouri.edu/parentlink/military.htm>

ANOTHER DEPLOYMENT RESOURCE

Sesame Street has a set of materials for helping very young children (ages 3-5) deal with deployment issues. If you are aware of military families to whom this might apply, they can order through www.militaryonesource.com to receive the materials as a free DVD.

SUICIDE PREVENTION WEEK IS SEPTEMBER 7 - 13, 2008.

In order to promote this event along with the National Lifeline, the Missouri Department of Mental Health partnered with the Division of Youth Services to produce a Suicide Prevention Week Poster using artwork created by youth from the DYS St. Louis Region. To download a PDF version of the poster, please visit: www.dmh.mo.gov/cps/issues/suicide/SPWeek.htm

Anyone interested in planning an event for Suicide Prevention Week in their own community may be interested in the free "Info & Media Kit" available online from the American Association of Suicidology: **National Suicide Prevention Week Information & Media Kit** www.suicidology.org/associations/1045/files/Kit2008.pdf

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{SYSTEM SUPPORT}

PLEASE FORWARD THIS MESSAGE TO THE SCIENCE TEACHERS AND OTHERS AS APPROPRIATE.

This '08/'09 school year the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is once again sponsoring environmentally oriented field trips to sites and facilities regulated by the DNR. They accomplished 12 field trips this past year, and expect to double that number this year. They strive to accomplish three interdependent goals throughout the field trip:

1. Increase awareness of environmental issues.
2. Increase interest and motivation to pursue careers in environmental sciences/studies, and
3. Improve understanding of the role of DNR in managing our natural resources.

The DNR will cover all expenses: sub-contract for a bus, up to two substitute teachers, lunch and incidentals. Field trips are generally limited to one busload of students, starting about 8:30 am and return by 2:30 pm. Download an application packet from www.dnr.mo.gov, site directory, and scroll down to "Field trips and career awareness project." If you have any questions, contact James D. Lubbers, Ed.D. Environmental Education Specialist, DNR Field Services Division at jim.lubbers@dnr.mo.gov or call 800-351-4827.

CONFERENCES/ WORKSHOPS OF NOTE:

A. MISSOURI SCHOOL COUNSELOR ASSOCIATION (MSCA) LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

will be held on **September 6-7, 2008 at Tan Tar A.** Information on the conference will be available at <http://schoolweb.missouri.edu/msca/>

B. MISSOURI ASSOCIATION FO CAREER SERVICES (MACS) WILL HOLD ITS FALL CONFERENCE

September 17 and 18, 2008 at the Court Yard by Marriott in Columbia, MO. To see more, go to <http://macs.mo-acte.org/>

C. 41ST ANNUAL MIDWEST SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK CONFERENCE

will be held **September 18-20, 2008** in St. Louis. For further information and to access online registration, go to <http://www.sswam.org/Conference/conference.html>

D. 2ND ANNUAL MISSOURI NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION (NAME) CONFERENCE

will be held on **October 10th and 11th, 2008** in Springfield, Missouri. The theme is: *Achieving Academic Excellence Through Multicultural Education*. To register, contact Dr. Jamaine Abidogun, Missouri State University, Ph: (417) 836-5916; E-mail: JamaineAbidogun@MissouriState.edu

E. MISSOURI SCHOOL COUNSELOR ASSOCIATION (MSCA) FALL CONFERENCE

will be held on **NOVEMBER 2-4, 2008 at Tan Tar A Resort.** Future information on the conference will be available at <http://schoolweb.missouri.edu/msca/>

F. THE BUILDING BRIDGES 2008 CONFERENCE

will be held on **November 16-18, 2008 at Tan-Tar-A Resort, Osage Beach, MO**

On Sunday, November 16 from 1:00 - 5:00 p.m., two preconference options will be available:

1. R-Factor Learning: Rigor, Relevance and Relationships
 2. Using the High Schools that Work / Technology Centers That Work : Assessment Data to Drive Student Achievement
- To see more information about the conference, go to <http://www.missouricareereducation.org/pd/conference08.html>

G. 2008 ASSOCIATION FOR CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (ACTE) CONVENTION AND CAREER TECH EXPO

will be held **on December 4-6, 2008** at the Charlotte Convention Center, Charlotte, NC. To see further information about the conference, go to <http://www.acteonline.org/Convention/>